

Dear Friends,

April 10, 2013

I'm delighted to announce that *The Record 2012* has been recognized by the Arkansas Historical Association. The association has named *The Record 2012* the winner of the Walter L. Brown Award for Best County or Local Journal. In addition, Sharon Shugart's article "What's in a Claim? The Litigious History of the Ouachita Hot Springs" received the Best Article award, Bryan McDade's article "The Crystal Bathhouse" received the Best Business History award, and Wendy Richter's article "150 Years Ago: A 'Capital' Time at the Spa" received the Best Community History award.

I deeply appreciate the excellent work of all of our authors and of the volunteers at GCHS who helped produce *The Record*. Researching, documenting, and publishing our local history is one of our most important tasks, and our team has done an outstanding job!

The society is very grateful for recent donations to help us digitize our photographs. We appreciate these generous donors: Umetco Minerals Corporation, the Hot Springs Giving Circle of the Hot Springs Area Community Foundation, Regions Bank, the Lotus Club, Orval and Ann Allbritton, and Gail Ashbrook. These donors (and those who gave previously) are truly helping preserve our local history. We welcome more donations to help preserve the history in our more than 30,000 photos and to help make them more accessible. We will be sending you a more detailed report on the project's status soon.

Please join us for our next program. Brian Irby will present "Politics from a Century Ago" at the society's noon, Tuesday, April 16 meeting at the Garland County Library. This talk will discuss the major issues and personalities that dominated Arkansas politics a hundred years ago as revealed through the 1912 gubernatorial race that pitted political veteran Governor George W. Donaghey against upstart Congressman Joseph T. Robinson in the Democratic primary. The major campaign became bitter and both sides engaged in, at times, viciously negative campaigning. The campaign exposes the myth that once upon a time politics was an honorable profession.

Brian, a native of North Little Rock, is a Library Technician at the Arkansas History Commission. He holds a Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in History from the University of Central Arkansas, and is currently pursuing a master's degree in Public History at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. He joined the staff of the Arkansas History Commission in 2008.

Thank you for spreading the word about GCHS and encouraging others to join. People can download a membership form at our website: [garlandcountyhistoricalsociety.com](http://garlandcountyhistoricalsociety.com) or contact us at 328 Quapaw, 71901. Gift memberships are also a great idea!

Thank you, and hope to see you on the 16<sup>th</sup>!

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